



TREE STAND SAFETY



- **Purchase a tree stand from a reputable manufacturer with an outstanding safety record.**
- **Check permanent tree stands every year and replace any work or weak lumber...inspect portable stands for loose nuts and bolts each time they're used.**
- **Never wear a ring in any climbing situation. Rings can catch on tree limbs and equipment.**
- **Tell a dependable person where you're hunting and when you plan to return. Map your whereabouts and leave a note at camp, at home or in your car.**
- **Carry a whistle, first aid kit, flashlight and cellular phone. Or if you're hunting with a buddy, carry walkie-talkies.**
- **Remove logs, upturned and cutoff saplings, rocks, etc. from the ground below a tree stand as a precaution.**
- **Never carry equipment while climbing. Make sure guns are unloaded and broadhead arrows are covered prior to raising or lowering firearms or archery equipment with a haul line.**
- **Always use a climbing belt. Always use a safety belt or harness when hunting from an elevated stand...a full-body harness is best. Never use a rope to replace a safety belt.**
- **When using climbing devices, choose only healthy living trees. Make sure each step is securely attached to the tree before you begin to climb.**
- **Never put all your weight on a single branch. Keep at least one hand and one foot on a secure place when reaching for the next hold.**
- **Climb higher than the stand and step down onto it. Climbing up onto it can dislodge it.**
- **Wear boots with non-skid soles.**
- **Don't fall asleep in the stand.**